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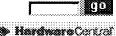
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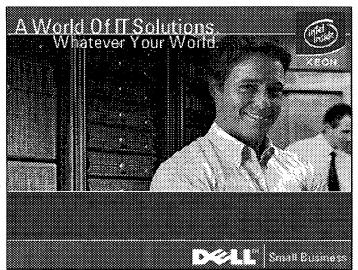
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## IP address

Last modified: Friday, July 11, 2003

An identifier for a computer or device on a TCP/IP network. Networks using the TCP/IP protocol route messages based on the IP address of the destination. The format of an IP address is a 32-bit numeric address written as four numbers separated by periods. Each number can be zero to 255. For example, 1.160.10.240 could be an IP address.



### Within an isolated

network, you can assign IP addresses at random as long as each one is unique. However, connecting a private network to the <u>Internet</u> requires using registered IP addresses (called Internet addresses) to avoid duplicates.

The four numbers in an IP address are used in different ways to identify a particular network and a host on that network. Three regional Internet registries -- ARIN, RIPE NCC and APNIC -- assign Internet addresses from the following three classes.

- Class A supports 16 million hosts on each of 126 networks
- Class B supports 65,000 hosts on each of 16,000 networks
- Class C supports 254 hosts on each of 2 million networks